

# State of Texas Assessments of Academic Readiness (STAAR™) Performance Level Descriptors Grade 7 Writing

### **Performance Level Descriptors**

### Students achieving Level III: Advanced Academic Performance can

- Write insightful personal narratives that skillfully convey the experience, revealing its significance and reinforcing its meaning through the deliberate progression of thought and vivid, expressive language
- Write skillfully crafted expository essays with a sustained focus, substantial development, and an organizing structure that clearly shows the relationships among ideas
- Choose purposeful, varied, and well-controlled sentences when writing or revising texts

### Students achieving Level II: Satisfactory Academic Performance can

- Write credible personal narratives that are focused on a specific personal experience and convey its importance; use appropriate organizational strategies to create a coherent piece of writing; use literary devices, specific details, and language that are appropriate for narrative writing and that contribute to a portrayal of the experience; and demonstrate an adequate command of grade-appropriate written conventions
- Write expository essays that establish a clear controlling idea, use appropriate organizational strategies and language to create a coherent piece of expository writing, sufficiently develop ideas with specific details and examples, and demonstrate an adequate command of grade-appropriate written conventions
- Use a variety of correct sentence structures
- Revise drafts to improve the effectiveness of sentences, strengthen the development of ideas by adding or deleting information, improve the progression of ideas, and ensure that word choice is appropriate and point of view is consistent
- Edit drafts to correct errors in grammar, sentence structure, capitalization, punctuation, and spelling

## Students achieving Level I: Unsatisfactory Academic Performance can

- Write basic or limited personal narratives that demonstrate a minimal understanding of the narrative task
- Write basic or limited expository essays that are marginally suited to the expository task and minimally developed
- Demonstrate a partial control of conventions
- Demonstrate limited skills in revision and editing